

# Introduction to Military Certification Office



**Federal Aviation  
Administration**

# FAA Military Certification Office (MCO)

- Created as part of 10 September 2004 MOA between DoD and FAA
- Technical Liaison and Support for DoD, FAA, and Industry to Support Certification of Commercial Derivative Military Aircraft
- Supports National Defense, Industry Interests, and Acquisition Reform for Public Benefit
- Funded by DoD to Provide FAA Reimbursement for Expenditures on CDA
- Ensure DoD Projects Receive Adequate Prioritization and Support



# FAA Military Certification Office (MCO)

- MCO Will:
  - Perform FAA Program Management and Integration Functions for Complex Projects and Those Crossing Regional Boundaries
  - Work on Policy, Processes, and Procedures to Address Unique Challenges and Improve Cert Support for Military Application
  - Work with DoD and Applicants to Identify Appropriate Airworthiness Solutions and Maximize Certification Benefit on CDA Military Aircraft



# FAA Military Certification Office (MCO)

- The FAA is Reimbursed for MCO Activity per the MOA
- The MCO Should be Notified Initially by the Military of a New Project
- An MCO Project Must Have a Military Sponsor in Order to Proceed
  - The Contractor/Applicant Must be on Contract With Military or
  - The Military Needs to Authorize the MCO in Writing



# FAA Military Certification Office (MCO)

- Per DoD/FAA MOA, Certification Support Will Fall into One of Two Categories
  - Baseline Support Services
  - Program Specific Services



# FAA Military Certification Office (MCO)

- **Baseline Support Services** are provided for modifications to commercial aircraft that meet the following:
  1. The aircraft's primary mission (for example, carriage of passengers and/or cargo) is not altered;
  2. The flight usage spectrum is within the FAA certified flight usage (or can be accommodated by maintenance concepts);
  3. FAA expertise and/or civil standards exist;
  4. The aircraft are operated and maintained in a manner consistent with the way the aircraft was certified for civil use; and
  5. The modification is of a type that a civil applicant would typically request.



# FAA Military Certification Office (MCO)

- **Program Specific Services** are FAA support for certification, continued airworthiness, and technical assistance to the Armed Services where the modifications to a CDA do not meet the criteria for Baseline Support Services.
- The Procuring Armed Service and FAA HQ will negotiate Program Specific Service Agreements (PSSAs) to support a particular program.
- The FAA will provide a cost estimate in response to the Armed Services' requirements.



# FAA Military Certification Office (MCO)

- Each PSSA must set:
  - Delivery schedule,
  - Period of performance,
  - Funding, and
  - Description of services to be tendered.
- The Armed Services may request other services that are within the scope of the MOA, but are not specifically referenced.
  - The MCO will provide those services as a part of Baseline Support Services, unless the FAA and Armed Services agree a PSSA would be required.





# FAA MCO and DoD Partnership

- Each Military Service Should Notify the FAA MCO when Need for Certification Support is Required.
  - Early Discussions to Define Scope of Program
  - Early Definition of RFP Requirements
  - MCO Can Assist Evaluation of Proposals for Source Selection
  - Timely Development of PSSA and FAA SOW
- Coordination Will Also Assist Contractors/Applicants if DoD and FAA are on the Same Page.
- FAA MCO to Assist with Developing New Policies and Procedures to Support Certification of Commercial Derivative Aircraft and Improve Standardization.



# Summary

- DoD, FAA, and Industry Must Work Together To Use Appropriate and Efficient Airworthiness Criteria for CDA Aircraft.
- FAA Role and Relationship with Applicant is Different than the DoD Role with Contractor.
- FAA Certification is a Disciplined Airworthiness Process, It is Not Just a Box to be Checked.
- Key to Success for TACC (Tailored Airworthiness Certification Criteria) Airworthiness Integration is Understanding the Similarities and Differences between MIL-HDBK-516A and Civil Certitude.
- The FAA MCO Can Provide Assistance to Other FAA Offices, the DoD, and Industry to Accomplish this Mission.

